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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,280	12/14/2001	Scott N. Gatzemeier	501088.01	3860

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EXAMINER

PHAN, TRONG Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2818

DATE MAILED: 05/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/023,280

Applicant(s)

GATZEMEIER ET AL.

Examiner

TRONG PHAN

Art Unit

2818

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 28, 29, 34 and 35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 and 30-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 17 April 2003 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Drawings***

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the external tester as recited in claims 14 and 20; the programmed programmable elements as recited in claims 26, 30 and 32; the antifuse bank and antifuse address load commands as recited in claims 26 and 32 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-27 and 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 1-27 and 30-33 are rejected for claiming the invention which does not contain a subject matter complying with the enablement requirement as follow:

A) it is not understood what type of the memory banks 320a-d, the bank address latches 330 and 332 and the fuse address latches 340, 342, 344 and 346 in Fig. 2 of the present invention really are. Since each of the bank address latches 330 and 332 and the fuse address latches 340, 342, 344 and 346 is receiving the same address signals A0-AN. If so, it is not understood how these same address signals A0-AN are selectively latched and inputted to the selected word lines of the memory cells at the same time by the enabled bank address latches 330 and 332 and the fuse address latches 340, 342, 344 and 346;

B) it is not understood what the external tester as recited in claims 14 and 20 really are since it is not shown in the drawings of the present invention;

C) it is not understood the programmed programmable elements as recited in claims 26, 30 and 32 really are since they are not shown in the drawings of the invention

D) it is not understood what the antifuse bank and antifuse address load commands as recited in claims 26 and 32 really are since they are not shown in the drawings of the invention.

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 25-27, 30 and 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, no antecedent basis for "the plurality" (lines 4-5 and 7).

Claim 5, no antecedent basis for "the completion".

Claim 8, no antecedent basis for "the plurality" (lines 3 and 7) and "the completion" (line 10).

Claim 12, no antecedent basis for "the completion".

Claim 25, no antecedent basis for "the completion".

Claim 26, no antecedent basis for "the address terminals" (lines 5 and 8-9); it is not clear whether the programmed programmable elements (line 3) and a programmable element (lines 7, 9, 17 and 19-20) are the same.

Claim 27, it is not clear what a corresponding plurality of address latches really are.

Claim 30, no antecedent basis for "the latches" (line 10), "the respective addresses" (line 10), "the address" (line 11) and "the programmable element" (line 11).

Claim 32, no antecedent basis for "the address terminals" (lines 10-11 and 13-14), "the data terminals" (line 16), and "the respective addresses" (line 20); it is not clear whether the programmed programmable elements (line 9), a programmable element (lines 12) and the programmable element (lines 14, 22 and 24-25) are the same.

Claim 33, it is not clear what a corresponding plurality of address latches really are.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-27 and 30-33 are, insofar as understood, rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Seyyedy, 6,424,584.

Seyyedy, 6,424,584, discloses in Fig. 8 a memory system having testing operation (see line 14, column 1) comprising:

- data input devices 270;
- data output devices 280;
- processor 262;
- memory devices 266a-c which each as shown in Fig. 7 comprising:
  - external address terminal ADDRESS;
  - bank address latch circuitry, comprising: column address latch 236 and antifuse banks 238, for latching the bank address to a selected antifuse bank in memory bank A or memory bank B;
  - antifuse address latch circuitry, comprising: row address latch 228a-b and antifuse banks 230a-b, for latching the antifuse address to a selected antifuse to be programmed in a selected memory bank;
  - control logic circuitry 224 receiving antifuse bank and antifuse address load commands
- COMMAND;

wherein:

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each of antifuse banks can include a programming circuitry 18 as shown in

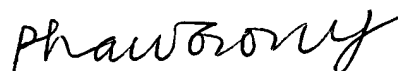
Fig. 1 Prior Art and Fig. 2 (see lines 6-11, column 3);

a specific combination of antifuses, in the same memory bank or in different memory bank, can be programmed overlapping at least a period of time, concurrently or sequentially (see lines 23-48, column 1)- for just a matter of programming.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TRONG PHAN whose telephone number is (703) 308-4870. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (703) 308-4910. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-4021 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



**TRONG PHAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

May 26, 2003